

Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot *New Bedford, MA*

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

The Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilots will each be funded up to \$200,000 over two years. These Pilots will bring together community groups, job training organizations, educators, labor groups, investors, lenders, developers, and other affected parties to address the issue of providing environmental employment and training for residents in communities impacted by brownfields. The goals of the Pilots are to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites contaminated with hazardous substances and prepare trainees for employment in the environmental field, including training in alternative or innovative treatment technologies.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of New Bedford, Massachusetts for a Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot. The City of New Bedford is also a Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot.

The City (population 99,900) is on the Atlantic coast, 55 miles southeast of Boston. New Bedford has a long history as the home of whaling, cotton textile manufacturing, and fishing industries. This has left little space for new industrial development. The decline of the City's main industries and the recent departure of several large employers have created many abandoned properties that either are contaminated or thought to be contaminated. Many of these brownfields are now owned by the City. New Bedford's efforts to assess and clean up brownfields and reduce a high unemployment rate indicate a need for environmental job training.

TRAINING OBJECTIVES

New Bedford plans to train 36 students with the EPA grant, achieve a 65% placement rate, and track students for up to one year. Participants to

PILOT SNAPSHOT



*New Bedford,
Massachusetts*

Date of Announcement:
August 1998

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets underemployed and unemployed residents of New Bedford, particularly those living in proximity to brownfields sites targeted by the Assessment Pilot.

Contacts:

City of New Bedford
(508) 979-1485

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 1
(617) 573-9634

Visit the EPA Region 1 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/region01/remed/brnflld>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

be targeted are the underemployed and unemployed residents of New Bedford, particularly those living in proximity to brownfields sites targeted by the Assessment Pilot. The Pilot training program will consist of 25 weeks of comprehensive environmental response training, including training in the use of innovative technologies for site assessment and cleanup activities. The City's training efforts will be supported by organizations such as Old Bedford Village Community Development Corporation, New Directions—Careers 2000, Bristol Community College, and the Community Economic Development Center of Southeastern Massachusetts.

ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Developing a curriculum for brownfields assessment and cleanup;
- Conducting training in site assessment, cleanup methods, and the use of innovative technologies; and
- Conducting outreach to recruit underemployed and unemployed City residents.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.